

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for August 18, 2009

Attendance: Mildred Horton, Sharon Whitney, John Madsen, Jared Shaver, Mary Black, Kathleen Sorenson, Judy Baxendale, Mary Ann Kirk (staff)

Excused: Jen Davies

1. Minutes for July 21, 2009 were approved as written.
2. Upcoming events were reviewed. Mary Ann announced that Clint Frohm, director of Murray Symphony, has pancreatic cancer. They are using a temporary director for the fall season.
3. A number of complaints were received about Grease. Most came from family night patrons who felt it wasn't appropriate for kids and families which we focus on. This stage show was more explicit than the movie which many did not expect. We provided them with comp tickets to another show. The quality wasn't as good as our normal shows. The Polynesian performance only had about 100 people attend because they had another show at the same time on the rugby field.
4. Mary Ann met with the Holladay Arts Council. They are interested in using a regional facility for a few things. They do not produce many big shows since they are new. Cottonwood Heights is just beginning to organize an arts council. South Salt Lake has not responded to phone calls. Stage Right focuses on 3-4 non-musicals and they were very interested in using the Little Theater with seating for 90. They have a critical need for space to build sets. Jared suggested it would be less expensive to find a different kind of facility like a warehouse or shop for set building that produces a lot of dust.
5. Board members agreed they would like to address parents who attend the Steve James assemblies to let them know where the funding is coming from. Jared thinks there is confusion about who sponsors these programs. Board members will place a flyer on the chairs that includes the winter season and programs we are offering for schools. Mildred felt that the NEA booklet for parents was helpful. Jared felt this was too much. Mildred suggested we briefly mention the performing arts center again. After some discussion, board members decided a booth was not necessary this year. Jared didn't think many people stopped by at the booths. We can consider this next year. Mary Ann will create a written announcement.

Assignments were made for each school. Judy (Horizon), Sharon (Grant), Kathleen (McMillan and Liberty), Mary Ann (Twin Peaks), Elaine or Mary Ann (Longview), Mildred (Viewmont), Jared (Parkside and Woodstock). Jen can back up anyone with conflicts.

6. A photography exhibit on refugees will be on display at the high school during October.

This will tie in nicely with the “kindness” theme related to Red Ribbon Week. They have asked the arts board to recruit volunteers as docents for school tours. Mary Ann will write a basic script including specifics about the art of photography (focal point, etc) and how the photographer captures the emotion. Mildred recommended a photographer named Jo Checketts to help us with putting that information together. We will know the schedule for tours next week. Mary Ann will e-mail it or we can discuss it at our next meeting. Other people that might be able to help as docents are Duff Clawson, Jan Small, Bob Conig, Nicole Warburton. The grand opening is October 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

7. Art Award suggestions included Joan Shuman (community ed) and two patrons (Mary Hadfield and Luella Finlinson) who have supported our programs for many years. They are in their 90s. Board members liked these ideas. We will recognize them at the first winter season performance. Other names for the future are Kathie Webster and Marcia Yates.
8. Help will be needed to hang the visual art exhibit on November 4 from 7 to 8:30 pm.
9. The U of U student team will have the operational plan for the performing arts center ready for us in October. Jared suggested we invite other interested art groups and the foundation.
10. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 15.